

Message Text

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51

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 VO-03 SS-15 /034 W
----- 094437

O R 031509Z APR 75
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8876
INFO USIA WASHDC
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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STATE FOR EUR/SOV, CU/ARTS
USIA FOR IEE
LENINGRAD FOR P&C

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SCUL, UR
SUBJ: METROPOLITAN/HERMITAGE EXCHANGE

REF: A. STATE 074976
B. MOSCOW 4141

1. AT INVITATION OF MINISTRY OF CULTURE AMBASSADOR WAS PRESENT
AT EARLY MORNING SIGNING APRIL 3 OF NEW ARMAD HAMMER ART
EXCHANGE. IN COURSE OF CEREMONIES DEPUTY MINISTER CULTURE
POPOV REMARKED TO AMBASSADOR THAT HE WOULD BE TRAVELING APRIL
15 TO NEW YORK FOR OPENING OF SCYTHIAN GOLD EXHIBIT AND
STAYING ON FOR OPENING OF BOLSHOI BALLET. HE SAID HE WOULD
BE ACCCOMPANIED BY VIKTOR GERASIMOVICH SMAGIN, WHO HAS RECENTLY
ASSUMED AMERICAN DESK AT MINCULT (APPARENTLY REPLACING
SHERSHUKOV). IT SEEMS THAT PLAN FOR BUTROVA AND FINE ARTS
CHIEF KHALTURIN TO GO HAS BEEN DROPPED.

2. REFTEL A AUTHORIZING EMBASSY EXTEND INVITATION TO POPOV
AND TWO OTHERS RECEIVED LATER IN DAY. SMAGIN IS LISTED VLOB
BPT-1 AND HIS APPLICATION FOR VISA MAY PRESENT US WITH AN
AWKWARD PROBLEM.

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3. EMBASSY PLANS EXTEND INVITATION BY LETTER TO POPOV APRIL

4 AND WOULD APPRECIATE ANY GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE BEFORE
THAT TIME. WE COULD FOR EXAMPLE TRY TO FORESTALL PROBLEM
BY SPECIFYING INVITATION IS FOR POPOV, KHALTURIN AND BUTROVA
AS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED AND REPORTED REFTEL B.
STOESSEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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